

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EAIR, JA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US TOUR OPERATORS IN JAPAN

1. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPERS, INC. (IDI) DBA TOYO WORLD ENTERPRISES OF CALIFORNIA, INC., HAS APPLIED TO CAB FOR A FOREIGN AIR CARRIER PERMIT TO ENGAGE IN THE INDIRECT AIR TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS FROM US TO ANY POINT OUTSIDE US (THAT IS, TO ORGANIZE AND SELL CHARTER TRANSPORTATION TO THE PUBLIC FOR CARRIAGE BY AIRLINES). IDI STATES IT IS A JAPANESE CORPORATION DOING BUSINESS AS A TRAVEL AGENCY PRINCIPALLY IN TOKYO.

2. SUPPORTING EXHIBITS FILED BY IDI CONTAIN FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE JAPAN DOES NOT RESTRICT ENTRY INTO TRAVEL AGENCY AND TOUR OPERATOR BUSINESS ON ACCOUNT OF FOREIGN CONTROL. DISCLOSURE OF NATIONALITY OF SHAREHOLDERS, OFFICERS, AND DIRECTORS IS NOT REQUIRED BY THE LAW REQUIRING REGISTRATION (TRAVEL AGENCY LAW CHAPTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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II ARTICLE 4). THERE ARE SEVEN UNITED STATES CORPORATIONS DESIGNATED AS IATA AGENTS AND LICENSED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AS OPERATING WHOLESALERS IN TOKYO - ONE WITH A STAFF OF 170 AND THE SMALLEST WITH A STAFF OF 33. SEVERAL OF THE REALLY LARGE UNITED STATES WHOLESALERS LIKE CREATIVE WORLD TRAVEL, IN-TRAV, CONTINENTAL EXPRESS AND

ORIENT ESCAPADES ARE EXPLORING THE QUESTION OF OPENING OFFICES IN JAPAN.

ALL OF THE AIRLINES TO AND FROM JAPAN ARE NOW ADOPTING GV AIR FARES AND BULK AIR FARES. THE ABOVE MENTIONED UNITED STATES CORPORATIONS LICENSED BY THE JAPANESE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION CAN FREELY OPERATE LARGE GROUP MOVEMENTS FROM JAPAN ON A GV BASIS OR BULK BASIS WITHOUT ANY RESTRICTIONS. ABC, OTC, ITC AND TGC ARE NOT YET PERMITTED. UNQUOTE

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS WHETHER QUOTED STATEMENT PARA 2 ABOVE IS SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT. IF NOT, PLEASE PROVIDE PARTICULARS.

4. DEPARTMENT WISHES AVOID SITUATION WHICH HAS ARISEN CONCERNING PERMITS OF JAPANESE FREIGHT FORWARDERS. IF THERE IS REASON OBJECT TO ISSUANCE OF PERMIT TO IDI, DEPARTMENT SHOULD SO ADVISE CAB BY SEPTEMBER 7.

5. FYI GV FARES GENERALLY MEANS GROUP INCLUSIVE TOUR FARES. ABC (ADVANCED BOOKING CHARTER), OTC (ONE-STOP INCLUSIVE TOUR CHARTER), ITC (INCLUSIVE TOUR CHARTER) AND TGC (TOUR GROUP CHARTER) ARE TYPES OF CHARTER FLIGHTS. CHRISTOPHER

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